

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP ART UNIT 1732REPRODUCE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to Group Art Unit 1732, 703-473-8711, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: January 2, 2003

Osamu K. Nakano  
Osamu K. Nakano

PATENT  
36856.927

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takahiro YAMAMOTO et al.

Serial No.: 09/539,691

Filed: March 31, 2000

Title: METHOD FOR MACHINING CERAMIC  
GREEN SHEETS

Art Unit: 1732

Examiner: S. Stalcovici

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-4 and 15-18 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Serial No. 09/539,691  
January 2, 2003  
Page 2

FAX RECEIVED  
JAN 03 2003  
GROUP 1700

Please replace claims 8-10 with the following claims:

8. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the diffraction grating is made of a material which is substantially transparent to the laser beam.

9. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the laser source is a CO<sub>2</sub> laser.

10. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the ceramic green sheet is provided with a carrier film for supporting one face of the ceramic green sheet.

Serial No. 09/539,691  
January 2, 2003  
Page 2

Please replace claims 8-10 with the following claims:

*C1 Sub D* 8. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the diffraction grating is made of a material which is substantially transparent to the laser beam.

*C2* 9. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the laser source is a CO<sub>2</sub> laser.

*C3* 10. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the ceramic green sheet is provided with a carrier film for supporting one face of the ceramic green sheet.